

**In the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph at page 2, lines 16-28 with the following:

-- Fig. 1 is a cross-sectional view of a prior art fuel pump;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of a cover of a fuel pump according to the invention, taken at a position similar to line 2-2 in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view of the cover, taken at line 3-3 in Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a cross-sectional view of the cover, taken at line 4-4 in Fig. 2;

Fig. 5 is a plan view of a body of the fuel pump according to the invention, taken at a position similar to line 5-5 in Fig. 1;

Fig. 6 is a partial cross-sectional view of one embodiment of a channel according to the invention, taken at a position similar to that encircled as 6-6 in Fig. 4;

Fig. 7 is a partial cross-sectional view of another embodiment of a channel according to the invention, taken at a position similar to that encircled as 6-6 in Fig. 4;

Fig. 8 is a partial cross-sectional view of another embodiment of a channel according to the invention, taken at a position similar to that encircled as 6-6 in Fig. 4; and

Fig. 9 is an alternative embodiment of a channel according to the invention, similar in several aspects to the embodiment shown in Fig. 6.--

Please replace the paragraph at page 3, lines 2-14 with the following:

-- Fig. 1 depicts a cross-section of a prior art regenerative fuel pump 10 utilized in a vehicle to pump fuel from a fuel tank to the vehicle engine. Examples of fuel pumps are shown in various patents, including U.S. Patent Nos. 3,851,998; 5,310,308; 5,409,357; 5,415,521; 5,551,875; and 5,601,398. Commonly owned U.S. Patent Nos. 5,310,308; 5,409,357, and 5,551,835, disclose pumps of the general type to which the present invention pertains.

The fuel pump 10 is configured to be positioned in a fuel tank and to pump fuel from the fuel tank upwardly through the fuel pump 10. The fuel pump 10 includes a pump housing 12, a pump inlet 14, a pump outlet 16, a motor 18, and an impeller 20, all of which are positioned about a longitudinal axis X-X of the pump 10. The pump housing includes a cover 22 and a body 24, among other parts. The cover 22 is positioned upstream from and adjacent to the impeller 20 while the body 24 is positioned downstream from and adjacent to the impeller 20. The cover 22 includes the fuel inlet 14 and the body 24 includes a fuel outlet 26. Fig. 2 depicts a

plan view of the cover 22 including the fuel inlet 14 while Fig. 4 depicts a cross-sectional view showing the cover 22 with the fuel inlet 14. Fig. 5 depicts a plan view of the body 24 including the fuel outlet 26. The housing 12 serves as the outer housing for the fuel pump 10 and houses the cover 22, the body 24, the impeller 20, and other fuel pump parts. --

Replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 12-17, with the following text:

-- Fig. 9 is similar to Fig. 6, but shows an alternative embodiment of the channel, with the channel having a flattened bottom surface 60 of the partial semi-elliptical 46 embodiment. Any of the embodiments depicted herein may include this flattened bottom surface 60, which is sometimes desirable from a manufacturing perspective. Where a flattened bottom surface 60 is utilized with the lower section 40, the remainder of the lower section 40 utilizes a semi-elliptical shape 44, a partially semi-elliptical shape 46, or a partial semi-circular shape 48, as discussed herein.--